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56. The method according to claim 55, wherein the composition is provided prophylactically.

57. The method according to claim 55, wherein the composition is provided to an animal infected with a hepatitis C virus. --

REMARKS

A restriction requirement was placed on the claims in the parent application Serial No. 09/014,416. Applicants are pursuing herein the claims of Group VII, claims 42 and 43, in the present divisional application.

New claims 44-57 have been added, which find support from the specification and original claims. Claims 44-50 are supported by claims 2-8, respectively. Claims 51-52 are supported by claims 9 and 10. Claims 53-54 are supported by claims 11, 12 and 28. Claims 55-57 are supported by claim 43 and at page 6, lines 16-30 and page 7, lines 4-5.

No new matter has been added by the Preliminary Amendment. Entry thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicants have also filed herein a sequence listing in compliance with the sequence rules under 37 C.F.R. §1.821-§1.825 (Exhibit A), a computer readable sequence listing (Exhibit B) and a statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.821(f) and §1.821(g) which states that the content of the paper sequence and the computer readable sequence listings are identical and that no new matter has been added (Exhibit C).

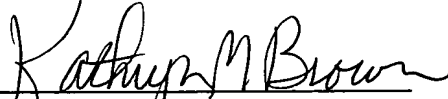
Entry and favorable action by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

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By:


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